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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/692,342	10/19/2000	Gregory Michael Nordstrom	AUS920000620US1	7001

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EXAMINER

SIDDIQI, MOHAMMAD A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2154

DATE MAILED: 06/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/692,342

Applicant(s)

GREGORY MICHAEL NORDTROM

Examiner

Mohammad A Siddiqi

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 March 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-22 are presented for the examination.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Toole et al. (6,345,294) (hereinafter O'Toole) in view of Royce et al. (5,748,884) (hereinafter Royce)

4. As per claims 1 and 17, O'Toole discloses a method for configuring a network (col 2, lines 1-13) said method comprising the steps of:

dynamically determining when a component is connected to a node of said network (col 2, lines 1-13); and

in response to said dynamically determining step (col 1, lines 20-24),  
configuring said network to provide support for said component (col 3, lines  
20-35),

O'Toole specifically does not disclose  
network-level partitions and at least one operating system (OS)  
assigned to each of said one or more network-level partitions,

wherein, when an OS supports only components within partition  
among the one or more network-level partitions to which the OS is assigned,  
said configuring process includes informing the OS, assigned to a partition to  
which said node belongs of the presence of the component and enabling OS  
and other support for said partition.

However, Royce discloses network-level partitions and at least one operating  
system (OS) assigned to each of said one or more network-level partitions  
(col 4, lines 1-20),

wherein, when an OS supports only components within partition  
among the one or more network-level partitions to which the OS is assigned,  
said configuring process includes informing the OS, assigned to a partition to  
which said node belongs of the presence of the component and enabling OS  
and other support for said partition (col 3, lines 64-67, col 4, lines 1-26 and  
col 5, lines 42-44).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Royce with O'Toole because it would provide an automatic notification system within a communication network environment that automatically performs predetermined notification procedures based on specific messages detected from an operating system.

5. As per claims 2 and 18, O'Toole discloses the steps of:

registering the OS (col 2, line 28) with an management system of said network, wherein said management system provides a notification to each registered OS (col 5, lines 55-57) whenever a new (col 7, lines 30-37) component is added to said node and detected by said management system (col 7, lines 40-60); and

automatically alerting said OS (col 2, line 28) via said management system (DHCP server, col 2, lines 33-35) that said component is added to said node step (col 7, lines 40-67).

6. As per claim 3, O'Toole discloses dynamically determining step is completed by said management system and includes the step of monitoring a network via a periodic sweep operation for visible configuration changes (col 8, lines 1-16) that indicate presence of the component (col 23, lines 52-60).

7. As per claim 4, O'Toole discloses network includes a switch (col 6, 51-53) and said dynamically determining step includes the steps of:

detecting an addition of said component to a link of said switch mechanism (col 6, lines 39-53); and

in response to said detecting step signaling (col 16, lines 47-51) said management system via the trap message that said component is connected to said network (col 14, lines 59-67).

O'Toole specifically does not disclose generating a trap message at said node.

However, Royce discloses (col 6, lines 65-67, col 7, lines 1-5).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Royce with O'Toole because it would provide an automatic notification system within a communication network environment that automatically performs predetermined notification procedures based on specific messages detected from an operating system.

8. As per claims 5 and 19, O'Toole discloses comprising the steps of associating said component to at least one partition (col 28, lines 1-2) of O'Toole specifically does not disclose said network from among the one or

more network-level partitions; assigning port attributes to said component; and, associating said component to at least one OS assigned to said at least one partition.

However, Royce discloses said network from among the one or more network-level partitions; assigning port attributes to said component; and, associating said component to at least one OS assigned to said at least one partition (col 3, lines 64-67, col 4, lines 1-26 and col 5, lines 42-44).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Royce with O'Toole because it would provide an automatic notification system within a communication network environment that automatically performs predetermined notification procedures based on specific messages detected from an operating system.

9. As per claims 6 and 20, O'Toole discloses the of determining the partition of said network to which said a component has been associated (col 27, lines 5-12); and

Checking for subscribed consumers (col 15, lines -53) within the partition (col 28,n lines 1-2), said subscribed consumers including said one or more OS (col 15, lines -53, col 5, lines 55-57); and  
notifying said OS of said component only when said OS is assigned to said partition (col 27, lines 5-12 and col 28,1-11) or said OS has subscribed

to be notified of new components and has correct access privileges for the partition in which the node exists (administrator, col 27, lines 5-12 and col 28,1-11), wherein each OS is provided predefined access privileges to particular ones of said one or more network-level partitions (read-only, col 28, lines 1-2).

10. As per claims 7, 22, O'Toole discloses further comprising the steps of: tracking components that are supported by the OS via a component table (col 13, lines 1-67);

Automatically updating a component table available to said OS with information about said component (col 13, lines 6-10); and

providing OS support to all components registered in said component table (col 4, lines 51-67).

11. As per claim 8, O'Toole discloses a system for configuring a: network, said system comprising:

a network manager (col 20, lines 14-15) that dynamically determines when a component is added to a node of said network and configures said network to provide support for said component (col 20, lines 14-17) wherein said network is a system area network (SAN) that enables user processes to bypass an OS kernel process and



directly access network communication hardware (col 1, lines 35-50);  
and

a network administration utility that (col 20, lines 14-17), and in response to said network manager dynamically determining when a component is added (col 20, lines 14-17), notifies an OS registered with said network administration utility that said component is added (col 6, lines 25-38), wherein said OS updates required OS parameters to enable OS support of said component (col 1, lines 35-64).

12. As per claim 9, O'Toole discloses the network manager determines when said component is added by monitoring and periodically monitoring said network for configuration changes (col 20, lines 55-58).

13. As per claim 10, O'Toole discloses network manager determines when said component is added by receiving a packet from said component indicated that said component is present on said network (col 6, lines 39-50).

14. As per claim 11, O'Toole discloses further comprising a registration table utilized by said OS for registering said OS for notification by said

network administration utility of an addition of a component (col 10, 55-60, col 2, lines 1-35);

15. As per claim 12, O'Toole discloses a partitioning mechanism that associates said component with one or more of a plurality of partitions of said network (col 28, lines 3-11); and

wherein said network manager notifies said OS only when said OS is associated with a same one of said one or more partitions (col 27, lines 1-11).

16. As per claim 13, O'Toole discloses comprising a component registry available to said OS that is updated with information about said component when said component is detected (col 3, lines 20-39), wherein said OS provides support to all components registered in said component registry to which it said OS has access privilege (security, col 3, lines 20-39, col 6, lines 9-20).

17. As per claim 14, O'Toole discloses a network comprising:  
a switch (col 19, lines 26-27);  
at least one node linked to said switch for adding components (fig 2, col 19, lines 26-28);

a network manager that dynamically determines when a component is added to said at least one node of said network and configures said network to provide support for said component (col 19, 26-40), wherein said network is a (SAN) that enables user processes to bypass an OS kernel process and directly access network (boot request packet, col 1, lines 35-50);

at least one operating system (col 2, line 28); and

a network administration utility (col 20, lines 14-17) that, and in response to said network manager (col 20, lines 55-58), dynamically determining when a component is added (col 20, lines 14-17), notifies an OS registered with said network administration utility that said component is added (col 6, lines 25-38), wherein said OS updates required OS parameters to enable OS support of said component (col 1, lines 35-64).

18. As per claims 15 and 21, O'Toole discloses a partition agent that associates said component to one or more partitions of said network and controls access to said component via a partition monitoring function (col 27, lines 1-12, col 28, lines 3-11); and wherein, said OS is notified of said component only when said OS has an access permission to a same one of said one or more partitions (col 27, lines 1-12, col 28, lines 3-11).

19. As per claim 16, O'Toole discloses network is a system area network (figure 2, col 5, lines 10-15) that enables user processes to bypass an OS kernel process and directly access network communication hardware (boot request packet, col 1, lines 35-50).

### ***Response to Arguments***

20. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1,8,14 and 17 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

21. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the

advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mohammad A Siddiqi whose telephone number is (703) 305-0353. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A Follansbee can be reached on (703) 305-8498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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